

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 – 51 (Previously Cancelled).

52. (Currently Amended) A container ~~having an internal surface and an external surface adapted to contain a water based formulation and its related vapors, the container~~ comprising:

a water-based formulation and a formulation vapor held within the container; and
an anti-skinning layer ~~located on at least a portion of the internal surface positioned~~
within the container, wherein, in use, the anti-skinning layer is ~~capable of retaining~~ retains a
layer of the water-based formulation without excluding the formulation vapor in the container
from contacting the water-based formulation.

53. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the water-based
formulation is solvent based.

54. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein:
the water-based formulation has a certain concentration; and
the anti-skinning layer substantially maintains the concentration of any of the water-
based formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer.

55. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer
is textured.

56. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

57. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

58. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

59. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

C1
cont. 60. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

61. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

62. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the container is adapted to contain 10ml to 50,000 liters of the water-based formulation.

63. (Currently amended) The container of claim 52 wherein the water-based formulation is prone to skinning.

64. (Currently amended) The container of claim 63 wherein the water-based formulation prone to skinning is selected from the group consisting of a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat paint, a satin paint, a semi-gloss paint, a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue, a resin, and a water-based ink.

65. (Currently Amended) A container ~~having an internal surface and an external surface adapted to contain a water based formulation and its related vapors, the container~~ comprising:

a water-based formulation and a formulation vapor held within the container;

a container sealing means ~~having~~ including an internal surface

an anti-skinning layer ~~located on at least a portion of the internal surface~~ positioned on the internal surface of the container sealing means, wherein, in use, the anti-skinning layer is ~~capable of retaining a layer of the formulation~~ operates without excluding the formulation vapor in the container from contacting the water-based formulation.

66. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the water-based formulation is a solvent-based formulation.

67. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein:

the water-based formulation has a certain concentration; and

the anti-skinning layer substantially maintains the concentration of any of the water-based formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer.

68. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer substantially covers the internal surface of the ~~surface~~ sealing means.

69. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is textured.

70. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

71. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

C1
cont.
72. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

73. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

74. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

75. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

76. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the container is adapted to contain 10ml to 50,000 liters of the water-based formulation.

77. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the sealing means is a resealable lid.

78. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 wherein the water-based formulation is prone to skinning.

C,
cont. 79. (Currently amended) The container of claim 78 wherein the water-based formulation prone to skinning is selected from the group consisting of a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat paint, a satin paint, a semi-gloss paint, a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue, a resin, and a water-based ink.

80. (Currently amended) The container of claim 65 further comprising a second anti-skinning layer, the second anti-skinning layer extending about at least a portion of [[the]] an internal surface of the container and the formulation.

81. (Currently amended) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is located between a circumferential lip of the container and the water-based formulation.

82. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is textured.

83. (Currently amended) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

84. (Currently amended) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer adheres to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

85. (Currently amended) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container.

Q,
cont. 86. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is an integrally molded series of space apart concentric ribs integrally molded to a plastics container between the top of the container proximate the sealing means to at least the formulation level.

87. (Currently amended) The container of claim 86 wherein the integrally molded series of ribs extend from the top of ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the container proximate to the sealing means substantially to ~~[[the]]~~ a base of the container ~~base~~.

88.-105. (Cancelled)

106. (Currently Amended) A container ~~having an internal surface, an external surface and a sealing means wherein~~ comprising:

~~the container is adapted to contain a water-based formulation prone to skinning by loss of water;~~

an internal surface; and

a water-based formulation and a formulation vapor held within the container, wherein
at least a portion of the internal surface of the container ~~[[has]]~~ includes a means ~~capable of for~~
retaining a layer of the water-based formulation and ~~its related vapors~~ the formulation vapor
~~without excluding the formulation vapor in the container from contacting the formulation.~~

107. (Currently amended) The container of claim 106 wherein the water-based formulation is solvent based and the water-based formulation is prone to skinning as the result of ~~[[the]]~~ loss of solvent.

108. (Currently amended) The container of claim 106 wherein the sealing means substantially maintains the water concentration of the layer ~~of formulation~~ retained.

109. (Currently amended) The container of claim 107 wherein the sealing means substantially maintains the solvent concentration of the layer ~~of formulation~~ retained.

110. (Currently amended) The container of claim 106 ~~wherein the~~ further comprising a sealing means ~~[[has]]~~ having a thickness of approximately 0.001 to 5 mm thick.

111. (Currently amended) The container of claim ~~[[106]]~~ wherein the anti-skinning layer substantially covers ~~[[the]]~~ an internal surface of the sealing means.

112. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is textured.

113. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

114. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

115. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

C₁
cont. 116. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to the internal surface of the container.

117. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to the internal surface of the container.

118. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is constructed of material selected from the group consisting of woven polyolefin cloth, unwoven polyolefin cloth, gauze, artificial grass matting and glass fiber felt.

119. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to a plastics sealing means.

*C,
cont.* 120. (Previously presented) The container of claim 119 wherein the plastic sealing means is a resealable lid.
